

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application, and reconsideration of the Office Action dated May 18, 2004. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 9-14 will remain pending in this application. Claims 3-8 are canceled by this Amendment. No new matter is incorporated by this Amendment.

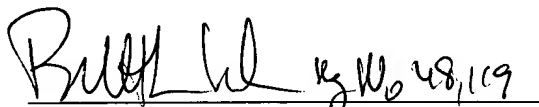
Applicants gratefully acknowledge that Examiner's indication that claims 9-14 are allowed. Moreover, given the cancellation of claims 3-8, Applicants' submit that the application is in condition for immediate allowance. Hence, allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Furthermore, if the Examiner deems that this Amendment does not place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to discuss any remaining issues.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, such as fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, please charge the fees to Deposit Account 02-4300; Order No. 032301.225.

Respectfully submitted,

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RGW/BLN